

Prayer For The Enemies Of The Church

Psalm 83:1-18

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1. The people of God should appeal to Him in _____ regarding the actions of God's enemies toward His people.

- a. It is people's resistance to the _____ that leads them to persecute His people.

"Men would be glad to cast the church out of the world because it _____ them, and is thus a standing menace to their sinful peace."

- Charles Spurgeon

- b. Opposition to the church comes from many angles; from the "_____" and from non-believers as well.

2. The people of God should appeal to Him in prayer based on how God has delivered His people from His enemies in _____.

"The defeat and discomfiture of former combinations may be pleaded in prayer to God and improved for the encouragement of our own faith and hope, because God is the _____ still that ever He was, the same to His people and the same against His and their enemies, with Him is no variableness." - Matthew Henry

3. The people of God should appeal to Him in prayer that He would _____ His enemies so that they would see clearly that He alone is God.

- a. Pray that they and their godless plans would be _____ and ineffective.
- b. Pray that they and their godless plans would have no permanence and would be exposed for their lack of _____.
- c. Pray that they would be terrified with a recognition of the _____ of God.
- d. Pray that they might be _____ of their rebellion against God and their persecution of His church.
- e. Pray that this shame for their sin might lead them to repentance and _____ in the Lord.
- f. Pray with the understanding that whether the oppressors are converted or judged, the _____ of the Lord will be upheld.

"These are great and unquestionable truths, but men will hardly be persuaded to know and believe them; therefore the psalmist prays that the destruction of _____ might be the conviction of others. The final ruin of all God's enemies, in the great day, will be effectual proof of this, before angels and men, when the everlasting shame and contempt to which sinners shall rise shall redound to the everlasting honor and praise of that God to whom vengeance belongs."

- Matthew Henry